



# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Free Shade Tree Coupon on Back of March RPU Bills**

**Riverside, Calif.** – Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) is once again offering its customers a chance to pick up a free shade tree by simply redeeming the coupon on the back of their March 2011 RPU billing statements at one of four participating Riverside nurseries.

Now in its tenth year, the Free Shade Tree program promotes the planting of shade trees that can help customers reduce their summer cooling costs while beautifying the city and providing environmental benefits.

Through its March free tree promotions and its year-round Tree Power program, which offers customers a chance to receive up to \$125 in rebates on up to five additional shade trees each calendar year, more than 87,000 trees have been planted.

Annually, the shade trees planted to date save more than 13.7 million kilowatt hours of electricity, and offset over 17.2 million pounds of green house gases. RPU hopes to reach the goal of planting 100,000 shade trees by the end of this year's program.

Customers will have until June 30, 2011 to redeem their March utility bill coupons good for one free shade tree (up to \$25 in value) at the following locations only: A&M Nursery, 10333 Arlington Avenue; Louie's Nursery, 16310 Porter Avenue; Parkview Nursery, 4377 Chicago Avenue; and Parkview Nursery 3841 Jackson Street.

For additional information on this year's Free Shade Tree Coupon and Tree Power programs, as well as tips for planting the right tree in the right place, visit [www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com](http://www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com) or call (951) 826-5485.

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 106,000 metered electric customers and 64,000 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

[www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com](http://www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com)

[www.GreenRiverside.com](http://www.GreenRiverside.com)

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